



# SCDDSN PROVIDERS NEWSLETTER APRIL 2010

I want to thank everyone for all the positive feedback I received from you regarding the first DDSN Newsletter. I received numerous emails from you asking to add your name to the list for receiving the newsletter electronically. I will be happy to add anyone else as requested to this list. I also received many ideas for future newsletters which was also appreciated. You may also find this newsletter by going to our website at <http://ddsn.sc.gov> and opening RECENT NEWS at the top of the webpage, then scrolling down to the middle of the page where the most recent newsletter will be made available for you to access. Again, I welcome any suggestions for ways to improve the newsletter or topics of interest you would like to see featured in future newsletters as we work towards building the bridge of communication with you and our agency. Feel free to contact me via email at [Nhall@ddsn.sc.gov](mailto:Nhall@ddsn.sc.gov) or by phone at 803-898-9650.

## DDSN MISSION STATEMENT

*Our mission is to assist people with disabilities in meeting their needs, pursuing their individual possibilities and achieving their life goals, and to minimize the occurrence and reduce the severity of disabilities through prevention.*

## **Updates from Quality Management....**

### **Contract Compliance Reviews and Key Indicator Revision for FY 2011**

DDSN Program staff, District Office Representatives, Delmarva Staff and representatives from the Human Services Providers met during the month of March to revise the Key Indicators to be used for FY2011 Contract Compliance Reviews. We appreciated the opportunity to have feedback from a number of stakeholders and hope this will improve the review process for the coming year. The overall number of indicators has been reduced and, due to the contract reduction passed on to Delmarva, there will also be a number of changes to the structure of the reviews. For FY 2011, most providers will shift to an 18 month review cycle. Exceptions will include providers with an overall score at 75% or below during their last review or new providers. Providers should note: the 18 month cycle is an approximation and the actual review could take place between 15 and 20 months. On-site follow-up reviews will be replaced by desk reviews and should continue approximately six months after the regular review date. The FY 2011 Key Indicators and crosswalk will be emailed to all providers by the end of April.

For FY 2011, a new component of the review process will be the Day Services Observation tool. Delmarva staff will make observations at day service locations and talk to consumers and staff, similar to the Residential Observation process. The Day Services tool will not be included in the provider's overall score. The Day and/ or Residential Observation process provides valuable insight to actual service delivery. This observation may take place before, during, or after the actual review period. In order to maximize internal efficiencies, Delmarva may make observation visits to surrounding counties that are out of sequence to the regular review.

Delmarva will hold its annual Provider Orientation Sessions during the week of May 24. Information about the Follow-up desk review process will also be shared at that time. Additional details will be available in the coming weeks.

### **Changes in Incident Management**

There has been a lot going on in the Incident Management area and April brings even more changes. We will bid farewell to Pam Kirvin and Sam Davis this month. Pam has been working behind the scenes with reporting documents and data coordination, while Sam has served in a number of different capacities. Sam will retire with 35+ years of service on April 30.

The process for submitting Abuse/ Neglect/ Exploitation and Death Reports and Critical Incident Reports will continue as before. Carol Neese will assume Incident Management Coordination responsibilities statewide and will serve as

the provider contact for all reports. Pat Hudson will continue to provide Administrative Support in this area. We are continuing to move forward with the on-line reporting system. The Incident Management System will offer features that should streamline the reporting process for everyone involved. The Incident Management System already includes the Critical Incident Reporting System. The Death Reporting System and Abuse/ Neglect/ and Exploitation Reporting System will be tested in the coming months. We are hopeful that both systems will be operational this summer. All forms will be automated and supporting documentation may be uploaded to the system for electronic storage of the entire file.

Provider representatives will be invited to help us test the system before actual implementation. Stay tuned for more details...

***Training Announcement from the SC Emergency Management  
Division***

***Emergency Planning for Special Needs Communities***

***When: April 27-28, 2010***

***Where: SCEMD, Pine Ridge Armory, West Columbia, SC***

***Questions: 803-737-8500 or visit their website at:***

***[www.scemdlms.org](http://www.scemdlms.org)***

***Phyllis Beasley, State Pandemic Influenza Response Coordinator with the Office of Public Health Preparedness- DHEC, wants to ensure everyone is aware that there are still H1N1 vaccines available and you are encouraged to have everyone seek out the free vaccinations by visiting their local SCDHEC offices. You can visit their website at <http://www.scdhec.gov/flu/myths.htm> or by contacting Ms. Beasley at [beasleypa@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:beasleypa@dhec.sc.gov) or 803-898-4557.***

# UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

## ❖ HEALING FARMS MINISTRIES

**Community Night**-beginning Wednesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> and the second Wednesday of each month thereafter, join them at the Juvo Center for a meal and fellowship time from 6-8:00pm.

**Caregiver's Half Day Getaway** on May 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am to 3:30pm. The day will end with an afternoon boat cruise around Charleston.

**Special Needs Bicycle Camp**-this camp will assist in teaching up to 40 special needs children how to ride a conventional bike.

For further information on these events visit their website at: <http://www.healingfarm.org/>

## ❖ VIDEO MODELING WORKSHOP

April 16<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-3:00 at Midlands Center Training Center in Columbia, SC. Intervention training and education for people with autism.

For further information visit the website at:

[www.dttrainer.com/vmworkshop](http://www.dttrainer.com/vmworkshop) or call 803-233-0541.

## ❖ EDCEPTIONAL FAMILIES CONFERENCE

EdVenture is hosting this first annual event for parents, teachers, and caregivers of children with disabilities on April 17, 2010 from 8am-1:00pm.

You must register to attend. For further information visit their website at:

<http://www.edventure.org/> or call at 803-400-1139.

## ❖ FAMILY CONNECTION'S ANNUAL BENEFIT AND AUCTION

Celebrating 20 years of support for families with children with special needs. April 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm located at Saluda River Club, Chickawa Outdoor Center, 644 Corley Mill Road, Lexington, SC.

For more information call locally at 803-252-0914 or toll free at 800-578-8750 or visit their website: [www.familyconnectionsc.org/](http://www.familyconnectionsc.org/).

## ❖ PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Celebrating Abilities-An evening of Jazz and Art. April 30<sup>th</sup> from 6-9:00pm. at the Meridian Building. For further information visit their website at:

<http://pandasc.org/>

❖ **YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM**

For students with disabilities from ages 17-21(as of 12/31/09)Newberry College July 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>. For further information call them at 803-896-6574 or visit their website at:

<http://www.scvrd.net/ylf>

❖ **FREE AUDIO CONFERENCE**

This free conference will be held May 5<sup>th</sup> from 2-3:00pm. It is for anyone interested in learning more about how to best explore public transportation options for people with disabilities. To learn more visit their website at:

[http://www.disability.gov/transportation/news\\_%26\\_events](http://www.disability.gov/transportation/news_%26_events)

❖ **SPECIAL NEEDS AIR SHOW AT SHAW AIR FORCE BASE**

May 7<sup>th</sup> from 12:00-3:30pm. Airmen will be in attendance to assist with a hand in hand tour of the different aircraft as well as having an aerial demonstration. I have been asked by Lt. Emily Young for you to email her at [Emily.Young@shaw.af.mil](mailto:Emily.Young@shaw.af.mil) no later than April 23<sup>rd</sup> if you are attending so they will know approximately how many people to expect.

❖ **STRIDES FOR AUTISM**

May 15<sup>th</sup> at Finlay Park. Sponsored by the South Carolina Autism Society. Registration begins at 8am and walk begins at 9:00am. For further information visit their website:

[www.scautism.org](http://www.scautism.org)

**IN THE KNOW**

- *The Center for Disability Resources, South Carolina's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disability Education, Research and Service is part of a network of more*



*than sixty centers located at major universities throughout the United States. The Center has been working to improve the lives of people with disabilities and their families for more than 25 years.*

- The SC Assistive Technology Advisory Committee is following up on last year's WEB TESTERS PILOT PROGRAM with another program that will use people who utilize assistive technology. For further information contact [janet.jendron@uscmcd.sc.edu](mailto:janet.jendron@uscmcd.sc.edu).*
- Have you heard about the Charleston Area Therapeutic Riding Program? They have been serving individuals with a variety of disabilities since 1991. They have assistance from certified instructors, physical therapists, doctors, psychologists, special education teachers, and a well trained volunteer corps. For more information call them at 843-559-6040 or visit their website at: <http://www.catrfarms.org/>.*
- Have you visited the National Center on Physical Activity and Disability website at [www.ncpad.org](http://www.ncpad.org)? You can sign up for their monthly electronic newsletter at: <http://www.ncpad.org/newsletter/>.*
- In the March Newsletter The College Transition Connection was shared. The College of Charleston is the latest college to team with this organization. The four year inclusive program is designed to provide students with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to participate in the academic, residential, social, and professional experiences offered by the college, with appropriate support for success. To learn more about this program or the four other colleges who are participating in this program visit their website at: <http://collegetransitionconnection.org/>*

# CONGRATULATIONS

## HATS OFF to Mr. Lester Porter of Springfield, South Carolina

Mr. Porter is the winner of the 2010 Employment Achievement Award from the Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities. This award is given to a South Carolinian who has met the challenges presented by significant disability and succeeded in the workplace and within his community. He will be honored at a luncheon on May 7<sup>th</sup> in Columbia.

Greenwood Genetics Center was the winner of the 2010 Palmetto Workforce Partnership Award for the medium business category. Among the criteria used in selecting the winner are quality of the work environment, impact on the community's quality of life, and support for human growth and development in the workplace.

## DDSN EMPLOYEE UPDATE:

Mr. Tom Waring has been promoted to the Associate State Director of Administration for SCDDSN.

Ms. Lisa Weeks has been promoted to the Director of Budgeting Systems.

## ***DDSN WEBSITE TIP OF THE MONTH***

DID YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN ACCESS IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION YOU MAY NEED BY GOING TO OUR WEBSITE AT: <http://ddsn.sc.gov> and going to the left tab titled ABOUT DDSN, opening this tab, then opening the tab to the left under this titled CONTACTS and viewing the middle of the screen for the various names and phone numbers you may need?